

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-10 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus having a plurality of image processing functions, comprising:

IP address generating means, connected to an IPv6 router on a network, for acquiring prefix information from ~~[[said]]~~ the IPv6 router and generating an IP address unique to each of the plurality of image processing functions based ~~on the basis of~~ the acquired prefix information; and

control means for communicating with a plurality of ~~[[other]]~~ appliances on the network by use of the IP ~~address~~ addresses generated for ~~[[every]]~~ the plurality of image processing ~~function~~ functions and operating each of the plurality of image processing functions ~~in accordance with a result of the communication~~ via a common bus, so that the control means executes communications between each of the plurality of image processing functions and at least one of the plurality of appliances.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the control means executes the plurality of image processing functions by executing, on a time-division basis using a task switchover, control task programs corresponding respectively to the plurality of image processing functions, and performs the ~~communication~~ communicating using the IP ~~address~~ addresses generated for

~~[[every]] the plurality of image processing function functions based on the basis of the~~
control task program, taking as a unit ~~[[the]] a~~ control task program corresponding
respectively to the plurality of ~~to an~~ image processing ~~function of the plurality of image~~
~~processing~~ functions.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A control method of an image processing
apparatus having a plurality of image processing functions, comprising:

an IP address generating step of establishing a connection to an IPv6
router on a network, acquiring prefix information from the IPv6 router, and generating an
IP address unique to each of the plurality of image processing functions based on the basis
of the acquired prefix information; and

a controlling step of performing a communication with a plurality
of [[other]] appliances on the network by use of the IP address addresses generated for
~~[[every]] the plurality of image processing function functions~~ and operating each of the
plurality of image processing functions ~~in accordance with a result of the communication~~
via a common bus, so that the controlling step executes communications between each of
the plurality of image processing functions and at least one of the plurality of appliances.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A control method of an image processing
apparatus according to claim 3, wherein ~~[[said]] the~~ controlling step involves executing the
plurality of image processing functions by executing, on a time-division basis using a task
switchover, control task programs corresponding respectively to the plurality of image
processing functions, and performing the communication using the IP ~~address~~ addresses

generated for ~~[[every]] the plurality of image processing function on the basis of functions~~
based on the control task program, taking as a unit ~~[[the]] a~~ control task program
corresponding ~~respectively to the plurality of to an~~ image processing function of the
plurality of image processing functions.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A control program embodied on a
computer-readable medium ~~[[of]] for implementing a method of controlling~~ an image
processing apparatus having a plurality of image processing functions, the method
comprising:

an IP address generating step of establishing a connection to an IPv6
router on a network, acquiring prefix information from the IPv6 router, and generating an
IP address unique to each of the plurality of image processing functions based on the basis
of the acquired prefix information; and

a controlling step of performing a communication with a plurality
of [[other]] appliance on the network by use of the IP address addresses generated for
~~[[every]] the plurality of image processing function functions~~ and operating each of the
plurality of image processing functions ~~in accordance with a result of the communication~~
via a common bus, so that the controlling step executes communications between each of
the plurality of image processing functions and at least one of the plurality of appliances.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A control program embodied on a
computer-readable medium ~~of an image processing apparatus according to claim 5,~~
wherein ~~[[said]] the~~ controlling step involves executing the plurality of image processing

functions by executing, on a time-division basis using a task switchover, control task programs corresponding respectively to the plurality of image processing functions, and performing the communication using the IP ~~address~~ addresses generated for ~~[[every]]~~ the plurality of image processing function on the basis of functions based on the control task program, taking as a unit ~~[[the]]~~ a control task program corresponding ~~respectively to the plurality of~~ to an image processing function of the plurality of image processing functions.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the apparatus is a composite image processing apparatus, ~~which includes and wherein~~ at least a printer function and a scanner function ~~[[as the]]~~ are included in the plurality of image processing functions.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the IP address generating means sends ~~[[the]]~~ each generated IP address to the router to check for duplication of the IP address, and, if the IP address ~~duplicates~~ is a duplicate, ~~[[said]]~~ the IP address generating means generates an IP address different from the ~~previously generated duplicate~~ duplicate IP address based on the basis of the prefix information.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 3, wherein ~~[[said]]~~ the apparatus is a composite image processing apparatus, and wherein ~~which includes~~ at least a printer function and a scanner function ~~[[as the]]~~ are included in the plurality of image processing functions.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 3, wherein
[[said]] IP address generating step [[sends]] includes sending each the generated IP address
to the router to check for duplication of the IP address, and, if the IP address ~~duplicates~~ is a
duplicate, [[said]] the IP address generating step ~~generates~~ includes generating an IP
address different from the ~~previously generated~~ duplicate IP address based on the basis of
the prefix information.